

CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

- 1 1. A surgical round knife for connecting to a suction source, comprising:
 - 2 a) a shaft;
 - 3 b) a round blade; and
 - 4 c) a suction interface;
 - 5 wherein said round blade is disposed on one end of said shaft;
 - 6 wherein said suction interface is disposed on the other end of said shaft; and
 - 7 wherein said suction interface is for fluidly communicating with the suction source so
 - 8 as to provide a suction at said round blade and thereby free up a hand of a surgeon
 - 9 from having to hold a separate suction device and thereby allow the hand of the
 - 10 surgeon to hold an additional instrument.
- 1 2. The knife as defined in claim 1, wherein said shaft is slender;
 - 2 wherein said shaft is elongated; and
 - 3 wherein said shaft is hollow.
- 1 3. The knife as defined in claim 1, wherein said shaft has a proximal end;
 - 2 wherein said shaft has a distal end;
 - 3 wherein said suction interface is disposed on said proximal end of said shaft; and
 - 4 wherein said round blade is disposed on said distal end of said shaft.

- 1 4. The knife as defined in claim 1, wherein said suction interface is for being sealing
2 engaged in a plastic suction tube that fluidly communicates with the suction source so
3 as to allow the suction to extend through said shaft.
- 1 5. The knife as defined in claim 1; further comprising a plastic suction tube; and
2 wherein said suction interface is sealing engaged in said plastic suction tube that is for
3 fluidly communicating with the suction source so as to allow the suction to extend
4 through said shaft.
- 1 6. The knife as defined in claim 1, wherein said shaft has a proximal end;
2 wherein said suction interface comprises a bulbous ferrule;
3 wherein said bulbous ferrule of said suction interface is disposed around said proximal
4 end of said shaft; and
5 wherein said bulbous ferrule of said suction interface is for being sealing engaged in
6 a plastic suction tube that fluidly communicates with the suction source so as to allow
7 the suction to extend through said shaft.
- 1 7. The knife as defined in claim 6, wherein said bulbous ferrule of said suction interface
2 is separate from said proximal end of said shaft; and
3 wherein said bulbous ferrule and said proximal end of said shaft form an integral
4 structure.
- 1 8. The knife as defined in claim 6, wherein said bulbous ferrule of said suction interface
2 is one-piece with said proximal end of said shaft; and

3 wherein said bulbous ferrule and said proximal end of said shaft form an integral
4 structure.

1 9. The knife as defined in claim 1, wherein said shaft has a distal end; and
2 wherein said distal end of said shaft extends into said round blade so as to allow the
3 suction to extend through said shaft to said round blade.

1 10. The knife as defined in claim 1, wherein said shaft has a distal end; and
2 wherein said distal end of said shaft extends into said round blade approximately one
3 third to one half said round blade.